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January 23, 2003

Time: 9:10 a.m.
(Minneapolis, Minn.)TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Jennifer Kim
Patent Examining Corps
Facsimile Center
Washington, D.C. 20231FROM: Ann S. ViksninsOUR REF: 875.039US1TELEPHONE: (612) 373-6961FAX NUMBER (703) 308-4556

* Please deliver to Examiner Jennifer Kim in Art Unit 1617. *

NON-FINAL — FORMAL RESPONSEDocument(s) Transmitted: Amendment & Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.111, including Clean Version of Pending Claims (7 pgs)Total pages of this transmission, including cover letter: 8 pgs

If you do NOT receive all of the pages described above, please telephone us at 612-373-6900, or fax us at 612-339-3061.

In re. Patent Application of: Fred S. LambExaminer: Jennifer KimSerial No.: 09/512,926Group Art Unit: 1617Filed: February 25, 2000Docket No.: 875.039US1Title: METHODS TO REDUCE THE SENSITIVITY OF
ENDOTHELIALY-COMPROMISED VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

By: Ann S. Viksnins

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Reg. No.: Reg. No. 37,748

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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Date of Transmission

S/N 09/512,926#A/C
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PATENT 2/6/03**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Fred S. Lamb
Serial No.: 09/512,926
Filed: February 25, 2000
Title: METHODS TO REDUCE THE SENSITIVITY OF
ENDOTHELIALY-COMPROMISED VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE

Examiner: Jennifer Kim
Group Art Unit: 1617
Docket: 875.039US1

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Office Action dated January 21, 2003, please amend the application as indicated below.

In the Claims

Please substitute the claim set entitled "Clean Version of Pending Claims," attached hereto, for the previously pending claim set. Claims 3, 4, 13, 22 and 24 are cancelled. Claims 1 and 23 are amended. The pending claims are claims 1, 6-11, 14-21 and 23. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked-up set of claims.

Please cancel claims 3, 4, 13, 22 and 24.

Please amend the following claims:

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1. [Once Amended] A method to [reduce the sensitivity of] normalize the contractile response of an endothelially-compromised vascular smooth muscle cell to a vasoconstrictor agonist in a patient in need of such [reduction] normalization, comprising administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of a CLC3 blocker, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.